

ANNUAL REPORT of the MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
for the YEAR 1943.



STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area in acres 1984. Population - Census, 1931...6660.

Registrar-General's estimate of
Resident population, mid-1943 5461.

Number of inhabited houses - (a) Census, 1931 - 1458.
(b) End of 1943 according to rate books
- 1558.

Rateable value£20,359. Sum represented by a penny rate ..£78.7437.

Social conditions, including the chief industries carried on in the area:- Abram is essentially a coal mining district and the houses are of the working class type.

Extent of unemployment: At December, 1943..Wholly unemployed:
Men - 127; Women - 4. Partially employed - 1 woman.

VITAL STATISTICS.

BIRTHS

<u>Live Births:</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Legitimate	102	57	45
Illegitimate	5	3	2
	<u>107</u>	<u>60</u>	<u>47</u>

Birth-rate per 1,000 estimated population mid-1943 ... 19.5

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
<u>Stillbirths:</u>	5	3	2

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births ... 44.

DEATHS

<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
62	28	34

Death rate per 1,000 estimated population ... 11.3

Deaths from puerperal causes:- Nil.

Death rate of Infants under one year of age:-

All infants per 1,000 live births	... 37
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	... 39.
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	... Nil.

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	... 9
" " Measles (all ages)	... Nil
" " Whooping cough (all ages)	... Nil
" " Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	... Nil

BIRTHS - The birth rate for 1943 shows a decrease of 0.3 compared with 1942 and an increase of 2.7 over the mean of the five years 1938-1942.

DEATHS - The death rate shows a decrease of 1.7 compared with 1942 and a decrease of 1.7 over the mean of the five years 1938-1942.

The death rate of infants shows a decrease of 8 compared with 1942 and a decrease of 29 compared with the mean of the five years 1938-1942.

- 2 -

The Cancer death rate 1.64 shows an increase of 0.2 over last year and an increase of 0.38 over the mean of the five years 1938-42.

The death rate from tuberculosis of the respiratory system is 0.18 which is the same as last year but is a decrease of 0.19 compared with the mean of the five years 1938-42.

CAUSES OF DEATHS.

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	1	0
Cancer of stomach and duodenum	2	1
Cancer of all other sites	3	3
Diabetes	0	2
Intracranial vascular lesions	3	4
Heart disease	4	7
Other diseases of circulatory system	3	0
Bronchitis	1	3
Pneumonia	3	3
Other respiratory diseases	1	0
Digestive diseases	0	1
Nephritis	1	0
Congenital diseases and birth injuries etc.	0	1
Suicide	2	1
Other violent causes	1	0
All other causes	3	8
	<u>28</u>	<u>34</u>

AGE INCIDENCE.

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Under one year of age	2	2
1 - 2 yrs.	1	-
2 - 3 yrs.	-	-
3 - 4 yrs.	-	-
4 - 5 yrs.	-	-
5 - 10 yrs.	-	-
10 - 15 yrs.	-	-
15 - 20 yrs.	-	-
20 - 30 yrs.	1	1
30 - 40 yrs.	2	2
40 - 50 yrs.	2	2
50 - 65 yrs.	6	11
65 yrs. and over	14	16
	<u>28</u>	<u>34</u>

There has been no unusual or excessive mortality in Abram during 1943.

A small and mild epidemic of measles during the first half of the year reached its peak in May.

Colliery injuries have not been excessive nor miners' diseases increased.

Ambulance Facilities: The collieries have their own arrangements for dealing with their injured and sick and it is well supplied. The township of Abram has the use of a joint ambulance and may also be served by the Wigan Police Service. The ambulance service is very good.

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Nursing in the Home: Abram has a Nursing Association that employs a full-time nurse. The County Health Visitor assists in certain children's illnesses.

Maternity and Child Welfare: A Child Welfare centre, under the jurisdiction of the Lancashire County Council, is situated behind the Abram Council Offices. The centre is open each Wednesday at 2 p.m. Ante-natal examinations and advice are undertaken.

Prevalence of and control over Infectious diseases: Infectious diseases, including smallpox, are admitted to Astley Sanatorium, which is a joint hospital for several districts. Abram is well accommodated by this hospital.

There has been no undue prevalence of infectious diseases during 1943.

Diphtheria anti-toxin is available in the district and is given free of charge to the populace.

Pathological and bacteriological examinations. - No. of specimens examined in 1943:-

Diphtheria - 12.

Diphtheria Immunisation: Immunisation material is supplied free to medical practitioners.

Action taken to provide artificial immunisation: Sessions are held at the County Council Child Welfare Clinic.

No. of children immunised during the year:

(i) pre-school children	...	56	Prophylactics used	...	A.P.T.
(ii) school-children	...	53	Prophylactics used	...	A.P.T.
(iii) adults	...	Nil.	Prophylactics used	...	-

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis) DURING THE YEAR 1943.

Notifiable Diseases	Total Cases at all ages.	TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED.												
		Age Periods - Years.												65 and over
		Under 1	1	2	3	4	5	10	15	20	35	45		
Scarlet Fever	20				1	4	10	5						
Diphtheria (including membranous croup)	8		1			1	2	2	1		1			
Measles, excluding German measles	46	2	4	11	7	11	11							
Whooping Cough	20	2	3	1	5	2	6	1						
Acute pneumonia (primary and influenzal)	21	1	1	2	1		3		1	6	1	2	3	
Puerperal pyrexia	1									1				
Acute poliomyelitis	1											1		
Erysipelas	2									1		1		
Totals	119	5	9	14	14	18	32	8	2	8	2	4	3	

Total deaths: Acute pneumonia (primary and influenzal) - 6.

Total cases removed to hospital from the district:-

Scarlet fever	...	...	...	...	16
Diphtheria (including membranous croup)	...	...	...	...	8
Puerperal pyrexia	...	...	...	...	1
Total					25

Disinfection after infectious disease:-

No. of houses disinfected during 1943 - 32.
 Method (state disinfectant used) - Sulphur Dioxide.
 Apparatus used for clothing, bedding, etc. - Sulphur Dioxide.
 (steam or otherwise)

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases

<u>Age Periods</u>			<u>Respiratory</u>		<u>Non-Respiratory</u>	
			<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>
Years.						
0	...	...				
1	...	...				
5	...	...				
10	...	...				1
15	...	...				
20	...	...				
25	...	...		1		
35	...	...				
45	...	...				
55	...	...				1
65 and upwards						
Totals			1		2	
			1		2	

<u>Age Periods</u>			<u>Respiratory</u>		<u>Non-Respiratory</u>	
			<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>
Years.						
0	...	...				
1	...	...				
5	...	...				
10	...	...				
15	...	...				
20	...	...				
25	...	...				
35	...	...	1			
45	...	...				
55	...	...				
65 and upwards						
Totals			1			
			1			

Ratio of non-notified tuberculosis deaths to total tuberculosis deaths: All cases had been previously notified.

The notification of tuberculosis in this district is efficient.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply: The supply of the district is satisfactory in quality and quantity.

Examinations:

Bacteriological examinations - 2. Results - Satisfactory.
 Chemical analyses - 2. Results - Satisfactory.

Sanitary Inspections during 1943. No. of premises visited - 628.

Defects or nuisances: No. discovered - 214; No. abated - 198.

No. of notices served: Informal - 66; Statutory - 4.

Legal proceedings: No. - Nil; Result - Nil.

Eradication of bed bugs:-

Nine houses have been disinfested by opening up the breeding places, such as floor boards and skirtings, spraying with vermicide and fumigation with "Thermatox".

Canal Boats.

Number inspected - 9; Number of infringements of Acts - Nil.

Housing Conditions.

The district is almost entirely affected by mining subsidence which causes damage to structures and drains. Most of the overcrowding is caused by service-men's dependants living with parents of service-man or wife.

Owing to the lack of available labour and the restriction of supplies of building materials, only essential repairs are being carried out.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Action taken with regard to Milk Supply.

Supervision has been maintained over dairies and cowsheds.

Farms: No. of dairy farms - 16;
Approx. number of cows in the district - 127.

Cowkeepers: No. of cowkeepers (including the dairy farms) - 15;
No. of inspections during the year - 96.

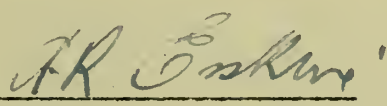
No. of dairymen or milk purveyors (other than cowkeepers) - 1.

Examinations for presence of tubercle bacilli:-

Tuberculous milk - No. of samples submitted - 16;
Result:- Positive - 2; Negative - 14.

Bacteriological examinations - Standard adopted - Methylene Blue Test.
No. of samples - 16;
No. satisfactory - 13; No. unsatisfactory - 3.

Signed,


Medical Officer of Health.

.....1944.

